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The Elba Clipper

Volume 105, Number 2

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, June 21, 2001

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Elba Board of Education names Daniel Stephens as chairman

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City School Board completed the annual rotation of officers last Thursday, naming long time board member Daniel Stephens as chairman and Dr. Lance K. Dyess as vice chairman. Each member will serve a

one year term in the leadership position.

Stepping down from a one year term as chairmanship is board member Bill Brinson.

The school system ended the month without having to borrow any additional operating money, which is a good sign to budget board members were told, but

they were cautioned not to expect that for the remainder of the fiscal year, as long as proration continues. The financial report did show that the check from the countywide sales tax was higher for this past month, which is a good sign to budget balancing administrators.

A state approved Flexibility Bill was adopted by the board members. This one time action allows the diversion of capital improvement funds to salaries enabling the school system to retain classroom teachers in a time of state education fund proration. Categories which may

have funding diverted to teacher pay are textbooks, technology, library enhancement, professional development, public school fund (construction, repairs, etc.), and transportation (school buses). The Elba system has chosen to divert only textbooks and public school fund monies. Superintendent Danny Weeks explained that this is the year for adopting new reading enhancement textbooks and with computers aiding Elba's strong presence in existing materials, the system can skip one year of such funding. He said they could also afford to divert some repairs and construction to save teacher units. Transportation is already in proration and keeping them on the road, and full of fuel is already a chore, said Weeks.

This action will free up \$238,536 of funds and will save one English teacher and one Math teacher at the high school. It will save three elementary teachers and three instructional aides at the elementary school. The state board of education has approved this action for only the coming school year after which time additional funding must be found if state education fund proration continues.

The school system still has access to about \$150,000 of state legislature capital improvement bond issue money with which must still be used for previously approved construction and/or repairs on the campus. The next item on the five year improvement plan is, the paving of a parking lot in front of the elementary school but no date has been set to start this work.

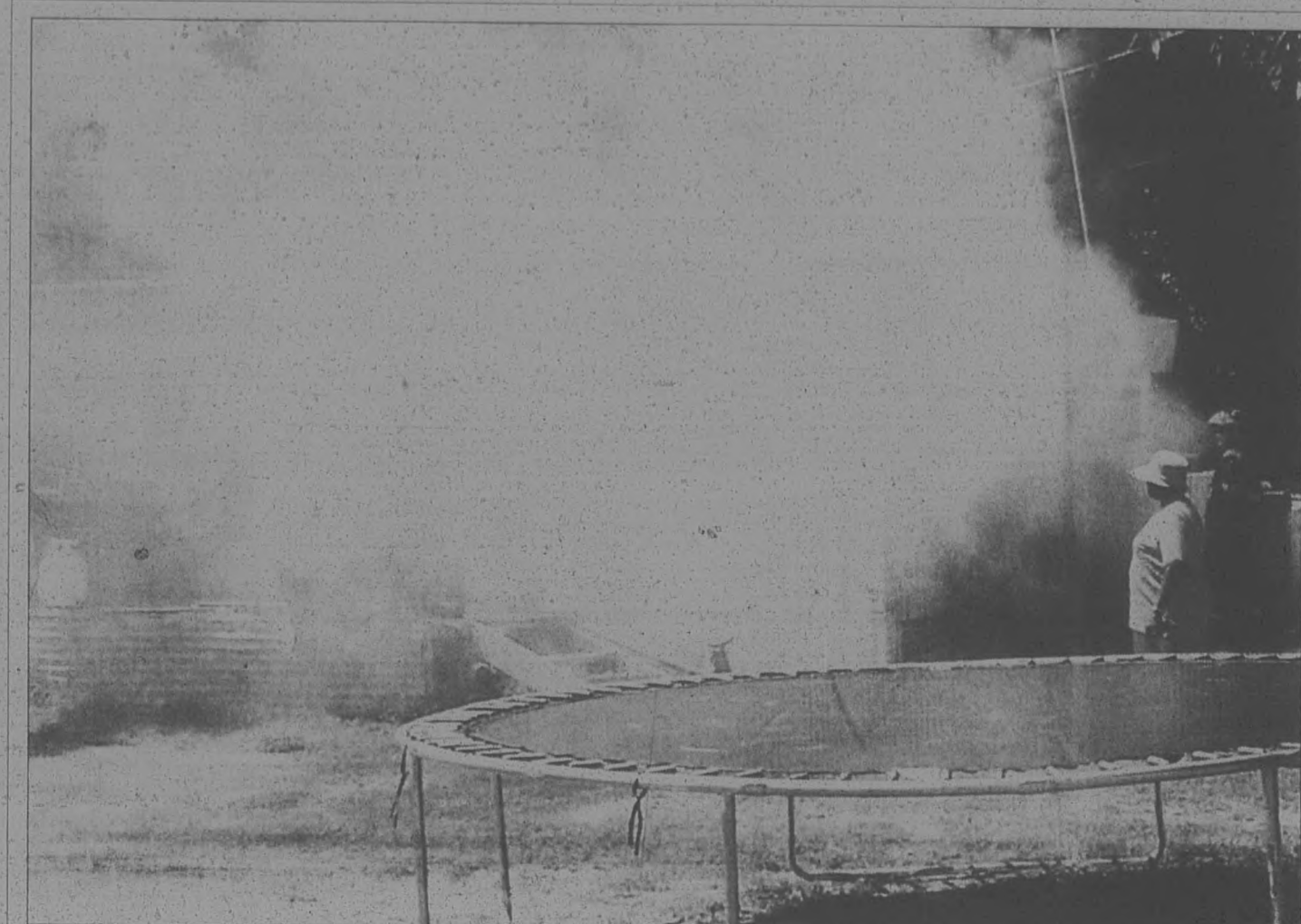
commendation of Weeks and hired Ellis Daniels as custodian at Elba High School. Board members were told that Daniels is well qualified and has experience, as he worked for several years with the firm which had the cleaning contract for the school buildings. The hiring of Daniels for this position shows promise of saving the school system money, as he is replacing a custodian who resigned to accept another position and Daniels has expertise in maintaining the floors of the buildings. The school system will have to purchase two new floor buffers (one at the high school and one at the elementary school) but Weeks is optimistic the annual cost will still be lower than when the work was contracted to an outside firm.

The board approved Valcom of Abbeville, as the computer network maintenance provider. This two year contract is a \$10,000 savings over the previous contract, according to a memo from David Stokes.

Board members were told that there were no student expulsions for the 2000-2001 school year. They reviewed a chart of suspensions for the year, broken down by race and sex, as required by the ongoing federal court desegregation consent decree. The same breakdown on sex and race was reviewed on the student dropout report for the previous year. That report showed exactly half the 20 student dropouts were white and half were black.

Projected enrollment for the coming year is down from last year.

Please See BOE, Page 12



FIRE CONTAINED... All was made a total loss Monday afternoon, June 18, as the Elba Fire Department responded to a mobile home fire on Jones Street. An emergency call was received by the Elba Police Department at 2:21 p.m. Monday afternoon indicating a mobile home fire at the residence of Johnny Luckett. The fire department was immediately alerted of the situation and responded in time to contain the fire to one room of the mobile home. Elba Fire Chief Larry Goodson said the mobile home contained major damage to one room with heat and smoke damage in other parts. Above, additional firefighters enter the smoke-filled mobile home as others already inside work to extinguish the blaze. Units from the Elba Police Department and a unit from Coffee County EMS were on hand during the incident.

City of Elba presents land deed to Coffee County Habitat for Humanity

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Owning a home has always been a goal for most families, whether it be in a small town or a large city, and Tuesday morning, June 19, in Elba, the Coffee County Habitat for Humanity got one step closer to helping a family reach that goal.

During a press conference at the Elba City Hall, Elba Mayor James Grimes presented the Coffee County Habitat for Humanity with a deed for the land in which the habitat will build its next home.

"I want to thank the mayor and the City of Elba," said Billy Cotter, chairman of the board of directors for the Coffee County Habitat for Humanity. "I am pleased to announce that the next home in Coffee County built by the Habitat for Humanity will be on this site."

He said the purpose of Habitat for Humanity is to help families that would not otherwise be able to own their own home by offering

low equity loans. Also, most of the work for a habitat home is done strictly by volunteers, and the family which will receive the home helps build it.

In Coffee County, Cotter said there has already been one home built in Enterprise through Habitat for Humanity. The second home will now be built in Elba.

"We are happy that the Habitat for Humanity has chosen to build its next home in Elba," said Grimes. "I feel this project will improve the area where they are going to build the home, and a local family will benefit by becoming a homeowner when they otherwise would not have been able to."

Grimes said the deed presented to the habitat was for approximately 1.427 acres and is located at the corner of Adkinson and Newton streets.

Now that the site has been chosen for the next habitat home, Cotter said the next step

will be the family selection. The family selection committee is headed by Rev. John Baxter, at the Elba United Methodist Church, and interested families currently can contact him to apply for the home.

Once a family is chosen, Cotter said they will be contacted by the family nurturing committee. This committee will explain to the family all the details of the process at hand.

And, he said they will be sure the family understands that they personally have to put a certain number of hours of work into the building of the house to qualify.

"It is amazing how responsive the people of Coffee County have been towards this program," said Cotter. "And, we already have many volunteers for the home here in Elba."

He said generally a home built through Habitat for Humanity is 2-3 bedrooms with 1-2 baths depending on the size of the family, and all the volunteers

work allows the habitat to offer these homes at a lower cost to the family than it would generally cost to build a new home.

"It makes you feel real good to see the pride these families have in living in a home they wouldn't have owned any other way," said Cotter.

There are certain criteria a family must meet to qualify for a Habitat for Humanity home, but anyone interested in applying should contact Rev. John Baxter at 807-2219.

Brown attaining college credit at age 14 through dual enrollment

by Linda Hodge, Editor

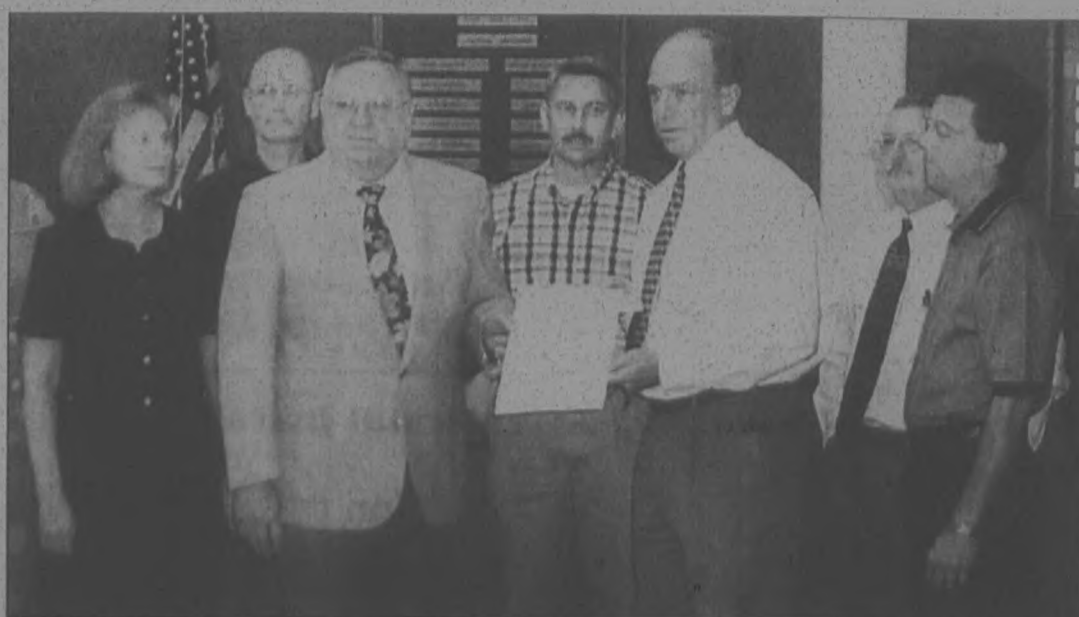
As a general rule, one would not expect to see a 14-year-old taking classes at Enterprise State Junior College, but that is just what is happening this summer semester.

Levi Brown, age 14, of Jack, is taking day classes at ESJC through the Dual Enrollment Program for Accelerated High School Students. Brown is a ninth grade student at Zion Chapel High School.

"You usually have to be in the tenth grade to be involved with this program," said Brown. "It was my dad's idea for me to enroll, and we had to get special permission."

According to Robin Wyatt, director of admissions and special projects at ESJC, the typical admission criteria for the program is the be a 10th, 11th or 12th grader in high school; be a "B" average student; and receive approval from the high

Please See LEVI, Page 12



Elba Mayor James Grimes presents a land deed for property to Billy Cotter, chairman of the board of directors for the Coffee County Habitat for Humanity, as other board members look on. The land will be the site of the second house to be built in Coffee County by Habitat for Humanity.

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Queen Sets

\$599.....Marquee
\$699.....Expedition
\$899.....Polarity

Area Happenings

TROY KING KICKOFF RALLY BBQ The public is invited to attend the "Troy King for Secretary of State, Kick off Rally" Bar-B-Q, Saturday, June 23, at 11:00 a.m. at the National Security Conference Center in Elba. Ticket's are \$10 each. In Elba tickets may be purchased from Liz Murdock 897-5976, Velma Moore 897-2486, Medical Arts, Whitman Drugs and the Elba Chamber of Commerce.

DEDICATION CEREMONY Elba General Hospital and Nursing Home will hold a dedication of the new addition and renovation of the Elba Nursing Home on Sunday, June 24, from 1-2:30 p.m.

COMMISSION MEETING The Coffee County Commission will hold its bi-monthly meeting on Monday, June 25, at 9 a.m. in the Community Room of the County Complex in New Brockton, Ala.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

The hearing Thursday on the proposed four-laning of U.S. 84 was well attended by interested citizens. Even though the area being reviewed was only the area of 2013 Bypass from Beaver Dam Creek to Smith Avenue, local citizens showed great interest. Of course the big question around Elba is . . . when? From this corner we continue to ask the same question and while there is still no definite answer, it is getting closer. We fully believe that most of the 4 1/2 mile stretch will be under construction or at least under contract by December of next year (2002). Right now it appears to highway department experts that the first section to be four-laned will be from the new Highway 351 bypass in Opp to the Coffee County line. In the immediate Elba area (from Smith Avenue, across Deer River and on to New Brockton) the engineers are apparently still trying to figure out where to drive their final stakes and actually recommend a route on which to build the four-lane roadway. These last two sections are expected to get to the hearing stage soon. The first section across Deer River in about two months and the last leg to New Brockton is as long as five months away. That is what the main man said.

Saturday we went to that big birthday party . . . granddaddy turned one and it was a family affair. Of course it was because this just turned one-year-old had been looking forward to the event and all the festivities for months and as family members and friends did it for that reason and that reason alone. Ha. If you believe that let me make you a good deal on the historic London Bridge. Getting there was a two-hour drive that ended on the up side as little Sarah was almost and reaching for her grandparents as we walked up the walkway. Then upon getting inside, she rewarded us with a demonstration of her new found ability to walk, even wearing the sandals that matched her new birthday outfit. Of course when those things were removed she enjoyed it even better with her bare feet in the shag carpet. Favorite birthday gifts . . . yep, the wrapping papers were her favorite. Of course our friends at Kleiner's would probably say it was the little Buster Brown outfit. Granddaddy wrapped so carefully, in that previously mentioned pretty wrapping paper but reality often differs from our dreams and wishes.

Governor Don Siegelman is always making the news, but last week ended with him boarding a plane for Europe and reports of minor shakeup in his staff at the executive cabinet level. Frankly something was needed and if strong words like "don't," "never again," "shape up," etc., were not working, then it was time for major changes. We personally know several of those caught in the shake-out and always hate to see a friend get the ax, but we also wonder if some members of that staff have the best interest of Governor Siegelman and the people of Alabama first and foremost in their mind.

Many longtime Elba residents will remember the Robert King family. Robert Sr. was a building contractor, son Bobby sold real estate and his wife Natalie taught school. Their four boys were still youngsters when the family left Elba. So like all youngsters do, son Troy grew up, got his law degree, worked several years in state government and liked the taste of it. Now he is returning to Elba to run for a political rally. Troy has indicated he will be a candidate for a statewide office next year and it is fitting that he kick off the campaigning with a rally in his home town of Elba. The event will be held at the National Security Conference Center next Saturday at 11:00 A.M. We will see you there!

Another upcoming event of importance in Elba is the open house and dedication of the new wing and major renovation of the Elba Nursing Home. The event is set for Sunday afternoon, June 24th from 1:00 until 2:30 p.m. Ceremonies will open with some formal words, ribbon cutting, etc., and then a tour of the beautiful updated facilities. Again . . . we will see you there!

Morale has been low around Elba for months with the bad local economic news. All the promises to improve in coming months and highway work, levee work, multi-million nursing home project, etc. will hasten the upswing. These are all headline making events, but there are other positive things happening. Examples would be the steady work to upgrade the storm drainage system in downtown Elba. Add to that the ongoing work to upgrade the size of water line to better serve the citizens and hopefully lower the insurance ISO rating and the related fire insurance rates. There is the amount of street resurfacing (but with a whopping price tag) which is finally about to get underway. Several years of planning and work has gone into improving the much battered Elba sewer system and this continues even today. The much discussed renovation of the old county jail into a museum and Chamber of Commerce offices is moving ever closer to reality. The city just received a financial grant to help plan the expanded Industrial Park (it helps to be ready when industry comes knocking). A shiny new spec building is already sitting ready and looking for a new tenant. Efforts are ongoing for funds to improve the local airport. Hey, we are optimistic and grateful to those who stay in the trenches from day to day and making the improvements become reality.

Stories about the dumbest crooks should have gotten some new candidates for head shaking last week in Dothan. A clothes dryer was stolen from a Dothan church. Some time later a crime stopper call reported several young men riding around the circle with a dryer strapped to the top of their car. . . yep it was confirmed to be the stolen one from the church, which was near the mobile home park where they resided. They of course were arrested. Now it seems the young men are to be charged with several other break-in type crimes. Do you think these guys can walk and chew gum at the same time?

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$17 per year
6 Months - \$9, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$19 per year - including tax
6 months - \$10
Outside Alabama - \$21 per year - 6 months - \$11

Firefighters serve as a symbol of heroism

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The fire department in Elba is famous for its steak cookouts and Monday evenings. I had the privilege of being invited to the cookout.

In the beginning, I was just happy to be included in their gathering and looking forward to one of those steaks I had always heard such good comments about.

But soon, I realized something about the Elba Fire Department and firefighters in general. They are not only a group of people that share a common bond of fighting fires. They are a family that cares about one another.

That was evident when the firemen and their families at the Elba Fire Department took time Monday evening to say a special prayer for the families of three firemen in New York who lost their lives on Father's Day. It was a touching moment that was so real.

The folks at the Elba Fire Department didn't know any of the firemen who died Sunday.

now did they know about the fire until seeing it on the news and reading it in the papers. But, this tragedy still hit close to home because they all know the danger that goes along with being a firefighter.

You have to respect any man or woman that is willing to risk his or her life to help you save your belongings.

Every time firefighters enter a burning building, they are putting their life on the line and their families are sitting at home hoping everything goes well and everyone escapes without injury.

In my opinion, it takes a special person to be willing to do what these people do that put their lives in jeopardy at a moment's notice.

And, I have an even larger respect for the firefighters of the Elba Fire Department because they do this job strictly on a vol-

unteer basis. Sure, they get a small amount of compensation for each fire call they respond to, but it is certainly not enough to compensate the amount of danger they are willing to risk.

I have been around when that fire alarm goes off and the firemen instantly quit doing whatever it was they were doing to jump in the vehicle and head for the fire station. Then, they get to the scene of the fire as soon as they possibly can and immediately start taking care of the task at hand.

Without hesitation, they do what needs to be done to help the individual or family that is faced with the devastation of a fire, and they don't leave until the job is completely done.

There are a lot of things that you can say about these men but the one word that comes to my mind is "hero."

They do this job because they want to help others, and anyone who is willing to risk his or her life to help others can be nothing less than a hero.

Now, the eight children and



Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, June 11, 2001, investigated the following incidents: one burglary, two for domestic violence, one harassment, one breaking and entering (aka vehicle), one minor in consumption, one T.O.P., and one natural death.

The following arrests were made: one minor consuming alcohol and two for failure to appear.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: three for running a stop sign, three for violation of the seat belt law, ten for speeding, one for improper passing, one for no proof of insurance, two for driver's license, not in possession, one for suspended driver's license, two for no insurance, one for revoked driver's license and one for passing in a no passing zone.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:
MONDAY, JUNE 11 - Possible breaking and entering reported in 14602 Hwy. 875 (2:08 a.m.); River stage 4.757 feet (6:46 a.m.); River stage 7.76 feet (12:30 p.m.); Alarm activated at Williams Signs (9:12 p.m.).

TUESDAY, JUNE 12 - River stage - 11:12 feet (6:00 a.m.); Routine activity.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

CALL CRIMESTOPPERS @ 897-3881
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REMAIN ANONYMOUS

BULLETIN BOARD

• SOCIAL SECURITY - REP. (Contributors: 4th Tues 12:30, 4th Thurs 1:00, 7th Tues 12:30)
• ROTARY CLUB - Tuesday @ Noon-Elba First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
• ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN. Tues. 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
• ELBA CITY COUNCIL - 2nd & 4th Monday - 5:30 p.m. City Hall
• WATER & ELECTRIC - 2nd Monday following city council meeting, City Hall
• AGRI-SUPPORT GROUP meets Monday 6:30 p.m. Elba United Methodist Church enter on side on W. Davis St. Maggie Garrett Claiborne
• COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Monday Community Room at Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton
• LIONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues. 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizens Center
• AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Thurs. 7:30 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.
• MASONIC LODGE #76 - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month: 7 p.m.
• BAND BOOSTERS - 1st Mon. 7 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School
• VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER - Mon-Thurs. 12:30 noon & 12:30-4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 804-5858
• COFFEE COUNTY HUNTERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat. 3 p.m. Club House
• COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN - 3rd Wed. Noon, Colony Inn, Enterprise
• AIRPORT AUTHORITY - 1st Tuesday at noon, City Hall Conference Room
• AARP meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month
• CIVIL AIR PATROL - Every Monday 7 p.m. - Elba Airport - Driscoll hangar
• ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB - Mondays - 6:30 p.m. - BHS Cafeteria

Elba City School Board - 1st Thurs. 5:30 p.m. - City Hall
• ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD - 1st Thurs. 5:30 p.m. - City Hall
• MASONIC LODGE #76 - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month: 7 p.m.
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ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following patients admitted during the time period of June 11, 2001, through June 17, 2001. They were: Mark Davis, Angelia Chandler, Debra Ledbetter, Anna Boswell, Patricia Beckwith, Lela Tyson, Bernice Greshaw, Lela Thomas, Frances Eddins, Sheila Armsstrong, James Y. Smith.

Stephen Deal and Elise Copes. Persons discharged during the same time period were: Anne Esposito, Christy Pugh, Mark Davis, Rossie Ellenburg, Dovie Welch, Rose Hudgens, Angelia Chandler, Anne Boswell, Deborah Odum, Patricia Beckwith, Lela Thomas, Debra Ledbetter and Lela Tyson.

Several awards and two scholarships were recently presented at the annual meeting of Leadership Community Bankers (LCB), a division of the Community Bankers Association of Alabama. First National Bank of Brundidge was one of its employees were among the recipients.

The Rising Star Award is a prestigious award given to a young banker who is deeply committed and heavily involved in his or her bank, the community and the association.

This year's award was presented to John Ramage, a senior vice president and operations officer of the First National Bank of Brundidge. Mr. Ramage serves on the finance committee for his church, the Pike County Cattlemen's Association as well as the Brundidge Business Association. In fact, he was responsible for editing and publishing a traveler's shopping and information guide called, "Welcome to Brundidge." In addition to his community service, he is also a member of the LCB Advisory Board.

In the category for banks with an asset size between \$50 and \$150 million, the winning bank was The First National Bank of Brundidge. First National Bank's officers are deeply involved in their community in organizations including the Pike County Chamber of Commerce, the Brundidge Business Association, the Brundidge Historical Society and the local

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Alabama PSC develops plan for new area code in 205 region

The Alabama Public Service Commission has developed an innovative implementation plan for overlaying the new 659 area code that will delay mandatory 10-digit dialing until it is absolutely necessary.

The timetable plan approved at the Commission's June meeting, Monday, is designed to respond to the level of demand for prefixes in the 205 area code region. Specific dates for implementing mandatory 10-digit dialing will only be established after a threshold of 100 prefixes are left in existing 205 area code. With this trigger point approach, as long as there are enough 205 prefixes available, mandatory 10-digit dialing will be implemented.

In April, the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) reported that demand for telephone prefixes in the 205 area code had dropped to an average of three assignments per month for the previous six months, with 229 available at that time. The latest projections indicate prefixes in the 205 area code will reach exhaust in the third quarter of 2004.

According to the plan, mandatory 10-digit dialing will begin six months after the number of available prefixes in the 205 area code drops to 100. At that time, issues such as consumer education and outreach and directory listings will be addressed in further detail by the telecommunications industry and the Commission. Additionally, NANPA will work with the telecommunications industry and the Commission to establish a firm date for implementing mandatory 10-digit dialing.

The plan also calls for permissive dialing to begin in December 2002. Lunching permissive dialing will allow alarm companies and similar businesses to modify their equipment so that when mandatory 10-digit dialing becomes necessary, Alabamians will experience a smoother transition.

Permissive dialing for the 205 area code will only affect 10-digit dialing because assignment of prefixes in the new 659 area code will begin until 30 days after mandatory 10-digit dialing starts. However, when permissive dialing starts, no one will have to dial 10 digits, it will simply be available.

Though the Commission has approved the plan for implementing 205 area code relief, it retains jurisdiction in this issue and can revisit its decision at any time should further developments dictate.

On a related note, permissive dialing for new "251" area code in southwest Alabama begins on June 18, 2001. Since this is a geographic split implementa-

tion, during permissive dialing either "251" or "334" can be dialed. On January 7, 2002, it will become mandatory to dial the new "251" area code. This six-month transition allows time for updating printed materials, reprogramming PBX systems and auto dialers for FAX machines and computers as well as notifying business associates and friends and family of the new area code.

An important point to remember is the new area code will not affect toll-free calling or telephone rates. Any call that is dialed before "251" could be dialed with still be a local call. The area of southwest Alabama that will receive the "251" area code includes portions of Wilcox, Clarke and Choctaw counties, most of Monroe and Conecuh counties and all of Washington, Mobile, Baldwin and Escambia counties.

The PSC would also like to remind Alabamians that only July 1, 2001, 7-11 can be dialed toll-free from inside Alabama to reach the Alabama Telephone Relay Service (ATRS). The two existing toll-free numbers for ATRS are 1-800-548-2546 for TTY/TDD users and 1-800-548-2547 for voice calls will remain in effect. However, both hearing-impaired and hearing callers will also have the option of dialing 7-1-1.

The ATRS is a service that allows callers who are deaf, hard-of-hearing or have a speech disability to communicate by phone with a hearing person. Messages are sent on Text Telephone (TTY/TDD) and read by a Communications Assistant to a hearing person. The hearing person's words are then relayed back to the TTY/TDD user.

The Federal Communications Commission has mandated that 7-1-1 access to Telecommunications Relay Services must be implemented nationwide by October 1, 2001. This should eliminate the difficulties for Relay Services of dealing with different access numbers in various states.

Wireless customers in Alabama should check with their service providers to find out if they can dial 7-1-1 before October 1 to reach the ATRS.

Governor appoints Ward corner for Enterprise division of Coffee County

Gov. Don Siegelman has recently announced the appointment of Rob Ward as Coffee County Coroner, Enterprise Division. He is filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Tim Whitehead. The appointment is effective immediately. Ward currently works at Searcy Funeral Home. He is a licensed

funeral director and embalmer. Prior to this position, he worked as assistant manager of the Ward-Wilson/ Meadowlawn Funeral Home Group. He is a graduate of Enterprise State Junior College, Ward also studied at Garton Jones College of Mortuary Science. He lives in Enterprise.

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OPEN HOUSE

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their new addition and renovation of the
Elba Nursing Home
Sunday, the twenty-fourth of June
two thousand and one
one o'clock until half past two

Obituaries

GENELL SIMMONDS DASINGER

Mrs. Genell Simmonds Dasinger, age 85, of Jacksonville, Ala., died June 13, 2001 at Jacksonville Health and Rehab.

Mrs. Dasinger was a former resident of New Brockton, Ala.

Graveside services and burial were held June 17, 2001 at the New Brockton City Cemetery, according to K.L. Brown Funeral Home and Crematory in Jacksonville.

Mrs. Dasinger was preceded in death by her husband, Roy Alvin Dasinger.

Survivors include three sons: Roger Alvin Dasinger, Ebro, Fla., Dr. Norman Roy Dasinger (Sharon), Jacksonville, Ala., Rodney Lewis Dasinger (Laurie), Panama City, Fla., seven grandchildren: Nena Dasinger, Norman Dasinger Jr., Rama Genell Dasinger, Dr. Adam Dasinger, Morgan Dasinger, Christine Dasinger, Knowles, Gabriel Dasinger; and six great-grandchildren.

Survivors include one granddaughter and grandson-in-law, Shannon Lott, Vega and Samuel Vega, Columbus, Ga.; one grandson, Derek Lott, Elba; one great-grandson, Ethan Vega, Columbus, Ga.; one brother, E.M. "Duke" Marlin, Birmingham; and one sister, Sarah Nay, Fayette, Utah.

Survivors include her husband, Don Jones, Friendswood, Texas; her daughter and son-in-law, Michel and David Fronberger, Pasadena, Texas; and her brother, Gary Wyatt, Dallas, Texas.

Survivors include his wife, Ann Watkins, age 80, of Birmingham, Ala., formerly of Elba; died June 17, 2001 at Elba with Rev. Ron Floyd officiating and Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directing.

Survivors include one daughter, Linda Bagwell, Birmingham; one son, Wayne Bagwell, Birmingham; one son, Bill Watkins, Goshen; eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Glenda Sue Jones, a resident of Friendswood, Texas for 39 years, passed away June 17, 2001 at the age of 59 after an 8-1/2 year battle with cancer. Glenda was born in Elba, Ala.

Rita Franklin, Kelsin Franklin, LaTonia Franklin, Atlanta, Ga.; one brother, Robert (Eloise) Franklin, Chicago; three sisters: Jeannette Franklin, Alma (Howard) Maiden, Ella Steward (Dee), all of Mississippi; over 52 grandchildren and over 100 great-grandchildren.

Graveside services and burial will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, June 22, 2001 at Evergreen Cemetery in Elba, Ala. with Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directing.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to Fellowship Bible Church Building Fund, 1720 East Broadway, Pearland, Texas 77581 in memory of Glenda Sue Jones.

Survivors include her husband, Don Jones, Friendswood, Texas; her daughter and son-in-law, Michel and David Fronberger, Pasadena, Texas; and her brother, Gary Wyatt, Dallas, Texas.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

SAMC "Lunch with the Doctor" planned for Monday, June 25th

The Southeast Alabama Medical Center is sponsoring "Lunch with the Doctor" Monday, June 25 at 12:00 noon. It will be held at the Doctors Building, seventh floor. The speaker will be Christopher E.

Robinson, M.D., orthopedic surgeon at the Southern Bone and Joint Specialist, PC in Dothan. Dr. Robinson's topic will be joint replacement including Hip and Knee Anatomy, Signs and Symptoms You Should

Look For. Treatment Options and Recovery Process. Reservations are required call the Medical Center at (334)712-3336 or 1-800-735-4998 and press 3.

USDA appoints Pelham to head rural development efforts in Alabama

The U.S. Department of Agriculture recently appointed Steve Pelham as the Alabama State Director for USDA Rural Development.

Pelham, from Montgomery, has served as the State Director for U.S. Representative Terry Everett since 1993. In that capacity, Pelham was responsible for the overall operation of three district offices where he worked closely on rural and agribusiness issues important to Alabama. 2nd Congressional District. Pelham has been active in building partnerships between the USDA Rural Development and rural communities to provide funding for housing, community facilities, utilities, and other services to rural areas.

Prior to his joining Congressman Everett's staff, Pelham served as an Area Organization Director for the Alabama Farmers Federation.

FREE

FREE adult education classes are offered in basic reading, writing, math, and to prepare for the GED Test. Enterprise State Junior College, and the Southeast Alabama Adult Education Network bring five separate sessions to the mobile area. Call 934-5343, ext. 218 to find out more about these special FREE classes and to schedule orientation and testing!



Dr. Thomas Daniel Holt (center) of Elba with Dr. John Brandon (left), medical director of the U.S. Rural Scholars Program and Dr. John Wheat (right), director of the Rural Scholars Program and professor of community and rural medicine in the U.S. College of Community Health Sciences. Holt is a member of the first class in the Rural Medical Scholars program. He graduated in May from the U.S. School of Medicine.

Dr. Holt among first class of University of Alabama Rural Medical Scholars

Dr. Thomas Daniel Holt of Elba was among the first class of University of Alabama Rural Medical Scholars to graduate from the U.S. School of Medicine. In their last two years of medical school, the scholars returned to U.S. College of Community Health Sciences for clinical training that experienced primary care and rural medical practice.

Holt was a valedictorian of Elba High School in 1986 and became the sixth member of his immediate family to attend Auburn University, graduating in 1989 with a bachelor's degree in accounting. Holt worked as an international auditor for First Alabama Bankshares in Montgomery and then as a cost

accountant at Dorsey Trailers in Elba.

In 1994, he decided to become a family physician and completed prerequisites for medical school while working as an accountant. Holt spent the summer of 1996 in the summer premedical internship program at the U.S.OM-Huntsville campus and then came to UA as a rural medical scholar.

Holt, whose wife Elaine is an interior designer in Birmingham, plans to practice family medicine in rural southeast Alabama. He will complete a family practice residency in Huntsville.

NEW BROCKTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

New Brockton Elementary School Announces Fourth Nine Weeks Honor Roll

FIRST GRADE
Myrtishea Rashara Andrews, Chelsea Ann Dempsey, Brandon Michael Lee, Jessica Lauren Parrish, and Anna Elizabeth Sawyer.

FIFTH GRADE
Emilee Grace Dunn, Christine Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Megan Hope Grosland, Daniel Graham Kelley, Bethany Michelle Milligan, and Lydia Rochelle Townsend.

SIXTH GRADE
Justin Gregory Corbett, Adam Christopher Scott Crosby, Heath Michael Hollis, Tyler Monroe Moore, Andrea Michael Proffitt, and Ashley Nicole Tidwell.

SECOND GRADE
Alyssa Danielle Brown, Brittany Nicole Colburn, Robert William Driggers, Ja'miah Lillie Dunn, Keundra Kent Edwards, Aubrey Anna Hawkins, Brittany Nicole Hay, Brandi Michelle Hendrix, Heather Marie Hester, Brian Reed Holloway, Chesley Nicole Holloman, Megan Evonne Jones, Kimberly Renee Perdrie, Kayla Marie Purvis, Steven Grady Smith, Shelby Lee Strickland, Thomas Anthony Thomaston, Katlin Marie Turner, and Courtney Mariah Williams.

THIRD GRADE
Nathalie Marie Castellanos, Katherine Abigail Dunaway, Justin Robert Grivold, Devin Darnell McNaair, Cassidy Renee Moore, Adam Joshua Pope, Harley Michelle Wallace, Kelly Wayne Wood, and Kristin Lee

Wood.

FOURTH GRADE
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SECOND GRADE
Amanda Danielle Allums, Nicholas Bradie Andrews, Danyal Foster Cawley, Brittany Nicole Clarke, Brandon

Michael Farnon, Michael Haynes Jr., Audrey Ann Johnson, Jeremy Dewayne Johnson, James Lynn Kerrigan, Stephen Marler, Angela Jeanette Marshall, Bethany Denise McWaters, Keltzie Danielle Myers, Shelby Kyle Peacock, Brittany Nicole Phillips, Nicholas Lance Proffitt, Garrett Logan Scott, and Brianna Shaw.

FIFTH GRADE
Travis Shane Addison, Devon James Blevins, Amber Michelle Carmichael, Courtney Khiry Foster, Nathan James Foster, Callie Anne Hollis, Christian Lytle Izquierdo, Monica Nicole Larges, Ann-marie Angelella Nell Miller, Kassandra Xavier Neal, Aaron Justin Pope, Kyle Glen Purvis, Josua Matthew Roberts, Virginia Pearl Smith, Brandi Starlyn Taylorland, and Miranda Lashay Williams.

SIXTH GRADE
Collin Duane Creel, Bon Thomas Deaderick, Felicia Michelle Grimes, Brandon Royce Grissold, Meghan Lee Gudith, Jayson Paul Hearold, John William Hester, Vanna Lee Marshall, Nicholas Austin O'Neal, Benjamin Joseph Parrish, Ryan Donovan Roehler, Lucas Kent Simmons, Michael Brandon Sims, Stevie Diane Siegnier, Elizabeth Victoria Stone, Brittany Michele Thomaston, and Justin Lamont Williams.

FOURTH GRADE
Corey Lee Adams, Ashley Marie Anderson, Jeremiah Tyrell Barefoot, Brandon Thomas Bell, Bobby Daniel Bradley, Lucan Landon Chappell, David Steve Austin Davidson, Hannah Nicole Duneir, Brittany Kaye Eubanks, Kayla Elizabeth Farnon, Maranda Lea Foust, Amy Terese Hill, Ashley Nicole Horton, Ashley Nicole Howell,

THIRD GRADE
Derek Atwell, Ben Jones, Tiffany Jordan, Kevin Kunkle, Jay McCrummen, Kasi McDonald, Kalliegh Sanders, and LaShea Smith.

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KINDERGARTEN
Robert Falls, Christopher Kunkle, and Ashley Sims.

FIRST GRADE
Blake Avant, Nicholas Ballard, Callie Brown, Mason David, Troy Devine, Samantha McCart, Dillon Rogers, Kyle Whitman, and Taylor Wilkerson.

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FOURTH GRADE
Crystal Baker, Kendall Carter, Taylor Davis, Tracy Edwards, Maeghann Hawthorne, Wesley Hunko, AJ Johnson, Lane Taylor, and Eric Wise.

FIFTH GRADE
Suzanne Chance, Clay Craig, Whitney Davis, Brittany Dubose, Shelby Forehand, Stephen Forehand, Aaron Jacobs, Garrett Kelley, Frankie Mack, Ashley McCall, Ehan McCrummen, John Moss, Ethan Nobles, Samantha Peacock, Kourtney Pierce, Lane Rushing, Caitlin Tindell, Christie Whigham, and Matthew Whigham.

SIXTH GRADE
Derek Atwell, Ben Jones, Tiffany Jordan, Kevin Kunkle, Jay McCrummen, Kasi McDonald, Kalliegh Sanders, and LaShea Smith.

PERFECT ATTENDANCE
KINDERGARTEN
Robert Falls, Christopher Kunkle, and Ashley Sims.

FIRST GRADE
Blake Avant, Nicholas Ballard, Callie Brown, Mason David, Troy Devine, Samantha McCart, Dillon Rogers, Kyle Whitman, and Taylor Wilkerson.

SECOND GRADE
Trent Archie, Timothy Ballard, Derrian Driggers, Trent Findeore, Aaron Rachel, Brooke Sims, Ashley Snell, and Wesley Weeks.

THIRD GRADE
Alissa Atwell, Dillon Bowdoin, Forest Brown, Lee Devine, Hannah Forehand, Jacob Hataway, Jacob Hofum, Cruz Lasier, Brandon Pierce, Taylor Rogers, and Amber Smith.

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SPORTS

Views from...

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Sunday was both Father's Day and Mom's birthday. So, the girls allowed us to celebrate both occasions by letting us take everyone out to lunch. I will admit that the food was great and it was enjoyable to eat with Randle and his folks over in Opp. However, I think it was even better to have the whole family together for a meal, and for fellowship.

HITS AND MISSES ...

*** Elba Country Club held its annual Junior Golf Invitational last week and as expected the youthful members of the Elba Tiger golf team dominated the event by placing first through overall. Colby Capps won the championship with a three-under par 68, closely followed by teammates Justin Allen and Bart Barnes. There is no doubt that Elba has a very talented group of young golfers coming through, and with hard work and dedication they should have a solid shot at winning a state championship, or two, in the very near future.

*** Coach Amelia Rhoades held a volleyball camp last weekend at Elba High and had a big group of youngsters at the four-day camp that were eager to learn the fundamentals of volleyball. Coach Rhoades led the Kinston Lady Bulldogs to a state title while at Kinston and rolled up countless wins, and honors, and know has brought her winning attitude and knowledge of the game to Elba High. The Elba girls have been very competitive for many years in volleyball, and this help from Coach Rhoades should pay extra dividends.

*** I was told that interviews began last week for the position of head football coach at Elba High, and while I am very interested in the goings on, I will admit that I haven't really kept up with the process. I understand that interim head coach Mike Waters was one of the coaches to be interviewed, but really don't know much else. I expect the hiring process to be completed very quickly, and look for a head coach to be named before the end of the month. Okay, Elba fans, let's hope the next Tiger coach will be the one that will guide the Tigers on their road back to winning football.

*** I don't watch television very much and hardly ever read a newspaper from Montgomery, but it seems to me that the Montgomery Wings independent pro baseball team isn't exactly taking the state by storm. The TV stations will give the scores of the games, but the videos show more empty seats that filled ones, and I can't help but believe that unless Montgomery can lure a true major league farm team to the city very soon, the Wings will go the way of all those so-called pro teams that passed through Birmingham over the years.

*** A group of Elba High basketball players have been traveling down to Florida the past few weeks with former-Malone High School coach Ken English to compete in a summer league, and last week Coach English and his troops brought home a lopsided win over Malone. English left Malone after only one season due to personal reasons and caught some heat from Malone officials, but his win last week over his ex-school might have opened some eyes and I am sure the win was especially sweet for both Coach English and his son, Kyle. By the way, the Elba kids have done really well in the summer league and with an 8-4 win over Elby, Anderson, and Stanley combined for 4 hits and scored 4 runs to lead Opp, while Richard Myers got 1 hit and scored 1 run for Elba.

*** In closing...registration for youth football and cheerleading will begin in just a few weeks, and this year Elba will continue to compete in the Tri-County Football League, along with Opp, Andalusia, Saragun, Florala and Red Level. This season the league will be split into two divisions, with the winners meeting in a first ever "Super Bowl," and that should make the season even more exciting than ever. The ages for the teams, and squads, will be 6-12, with the cut-off date being one's age on August 1, 2001. Get ready, it is almost time to kick it off!

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Takes title for second straight year

Colby Capps captures Elba Junior Invitational title

Elba's Own Colby Capps fired a three under par 68 (33-35) last week to capture his second consecutive championship in the Elba Country Club Junior Invitational Golf Tournament.

Justin Allen, also of Elba, finished second with an even par 71 (36-35), while Elba's Bart Barnes placed third with a two over par 73 (38-35).

Following are the complete list of competitors in each of the divisions:

AGE 12-18
Eric Mitchell, Troy 77
Tommy Casey, Geneva 78
Parick Dyess, Geneva 79
Adam Riley, Geneva 81
Neil Grantham, Elba 95

AGE 15-16
Colby Capps, Elba 68
Justin Allen, Elba 71

Bart Barnes, Elba 73
Tyler Spears, Geneva 83
Ben Dye, Elba 83
Colby Skinner, Elba 85
Derrick Thomas, Elba 86
Ralston Moore, Elba 87

AGE 13-14
Trip Owens, Brewton 83
Clark Skinner, Elba 93
Timothy Jackson, Elba 96
Chase Rogers, Troy 99
Dustin Rhoades, Elba 115

AGE 11-UNDER
Nick Weeks, Elba 41
Taylor Tew, Luverne 57
Don Rhoades, Elba 59
Michael Jackson, Elba 59
Robert Paul, Elba 60

GIRLS DIVISION
Allison Mitchell, Troy 84
Kristen Barnes, Elba 118
Mallory Allen, Elba 121

Youth baseball seasons
draw to a close in Elba

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation wrapped up its 2001 summer baseball and softball seasons last week, with action on the baseball diamonds.

Following are highlights of recent baseball action:

DIXIE PRE-MAJORS
BASEBALL

*** Opp 8 Z.C. Rebels 3 - Opp pulled ahead early and pulled away late to down the Z.C. Rebels 8-3 last Friday night in Elba. Anderson got 2 hits and scored 3 runs to lead Opp, while Wilkerson batted out 3 hits and scored 1 run to lead the Rebels, while Flowers added 1 hit and also scored 1 run.

*** Opp 8 Elba 4 - Opp completed a double-header sweep Friday night with an 8-4 win over Elba. Anderson and Stanley combined for 4 hits and scored 4 runs to lead Opp, while Richard Myers got 1 hit and scored 1 run for Elba.

DIXIE MINOR
BASEBALL

*** Angels 12 Athletics 7 - The Angels pulled ahead early behind a seven-run outburst in the opening inning and then held on late to defeat the Athletics 12-7. Aaron Drewery got 3 hits and scored 2 runs to lead the Angels, while Gavin Flowers added 3 hits and scored 1 run and Dylan McCollough had 2 hits and scored 2 runs. Solomon Harris and Justin Groswood both got 1 hit and scored 1 run to lead the Athletics, while Ethan Scott scored 2 runs.

*** Royals 4 Braves 3 - The Royals scored the winning run with two outs in the final inning to claim an exciting 4-3 win.

The L.B. Wallace women's and men's basketball team camp will be held on June 27-30, from 5:30 until 10:30 PM, at the L.B. Wallace Community College and Andalusia High School gyms.

The cost is \$600 per team, with t-shirts going to all members of the teams. Each team will play two or more games each night, and set 22:02.

Softball tourney set for Clayhatchee

There will be a men's class C and below softball tournament on Saturday, June 23, at the Clayhatchee Community Park. The cost to enter is \$115 per team, with each team to hit its own softball. A 5 home-run rule per game rule will be used.

Teams will go to the top three teams, and to enter call Nancy at 598-4322 or Lynn at 598-2138. The deadline to enter is June 21 at 5:00 PM. Call today to enter your team!

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17-18 YEAR-OLD WINNERS included (l-r) Adam Pickron and Eric Mitchell.



15-16 YEAR-OLD WINNERS included (l-r) Bart Barnes, Colby Capps and Justin Allen.



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SPORTS

LEAGUE CHAMPIONS



MARLINS - COACH PITCH CHAMPIONS...The Marlins posted a 12-0 record to claim the championship of the Elba Coach Pitch baseball League. Team members included Cameron Johnson, Tyron Burks, Josh Johnson, Chance Goosby, Michael Martin, Jaron Kelley, Connor Kelley, Jordan Williams, Xavier Rodgers, Tyler Anderson, Sage Kelley, Ashton Senn and Jon Ashley Amison. The team was coached by Scott Kelley.



ANGELS - DIXIE MINOR CHAMPIONS...The Angels wrapped up a perfect 13-0 season last week to capture the league championship in the Elba Dixie Minor Baseball League. Team members included Dylan McCollough, Jordan McBride, Gavin Flowers, Richard Cooks, Ashley Sanders, Justin Mallory, Brock Lanier, Aaron Drewery, Josh Hughes, Jonathan Bryant, Jason Allen and Marcus Coleman. The coaches were Mike Sanders, Rhett McCollough and Charles Mallory.

**Let's Go...
Outdoors with Ben**
by Ben Norman, Sports Columnist

**Erect Wood Duck
Nesting Boxes To
Attract More Ducks**

Alabama's coastal area serves as a seasonal visiting place for over 25 species of migrating waterfowl each year. Of all the ducks that pay us a visit, the wood duck is more widely distributed and can be found in every county. Wood ducks also nest extensively in Alabama's wetlands, beaver ponds and some farm ponds.

The wood duck has made a remarkable comeback from the brink of extinction in the early 1900's, thanks to the efforts of sportsmen across the country. Prior to the early 1900's wood ducks were abundant along the waterways of eastern North America. The clear cutting of timber along the water ways, over trapping of beavers, and market hunting drastically reduced wood duck numbers.

Laws to reduce the harvest and hunting season on wood ducks were passed in 1918. Beavers were restocked in areas where they were once abundant and nesting boxes were erected by wildlife agencies and sportsmen organizations. These united efforts resulted in a dramatic increase in the wood duck population. Recent counts put their numbers at several million and increasing.

Providing nesting boxes around farm and beaver ponds will attract breeding wood ducks. They naturally seek cavities in mature hardwoods, but such sites are becoming scarce, as many hardwood forests are clear-cut. Wood ducks readily accept and nest in artificial nesting boxes that are properly built, located and maintained. Nesting boxes last longer when built of 1x12-inch cypress, redwood or treated pine lumber. The top of the box can be sloped for proper drainage and have a hinged lid with a hook for box inspection and maintenance. Nest boxes should be 20 to 22 inches high and 12 inches wide. Cut a 4x3-inch oval entrance hole so the bottom of the entrance is approximately 16 inches from the bottom of the nest box. Drill several small holes in the box floor for adequate drainage. Add 4 or 5 inches of sawdust, wood shavings or hay for nest material. If dressed lumber is used, provide a 2-inch strip of hardware cloth from the entrance to the box bottom. This serves as a ladder so young ducklings can climb out of the box.

Nest boxes should be placed a minimum of 6 feet above the water on a tree or pole. Boxes must be located near good habitat that provides protective cover. A metal cone shape predator guard extending a minimum of 16 inches out from the pole will keep predators out. A raccoon or other predator will attack a box installed without a predator guard. Raccoons are the number one enemy of nesting wood ducks. They eat the eggs, ducklings and often trap and kill the hen. Under no circumstances should a box be erected without a predator guard.

Plans for building nest boxes, including a materials list, can be obtained from your county extension agent. It's a nice weekend project, and a homeless mother duck will thank you for your effort.

IF IT IS "SPORTS" YOU CAN FIND IT HERE IN...

THE ELBA CLIPPER

CONSERVATION
COMMENTSBy Riley Boykins,
Commissioner"Hunter Education
Is Working"

Hunter education is working! The more aware a hunter is of the regulations and safety precautions that are necessary in hunting, the less likely that hunter is to become a statistic. Most hunter-related firearm accidents occur due to lack of hunter knowledge or the failure to apply that knowledge. The purpose of Alabama's hunter education program is to impart that knowledge in a meaningful way that will remain a positive influence throughout the hunter's lifetime.

Alabama is one of 49 states with a mandatory hunter education program. Required for all hunters born on or after August 1, 1977, the state's program provides a basic foundation for novice hunters but also is open to older hunters who are interested in a refresher course. The course meets all requirements to be accepted in all U.S. states and Canadian provinces where hunter education is mandatory before hunting license purchases.

The Alabama Hunter Education program has graduated 185,738 students since its beginning in 1973. On an average of 12,800 students per year since the course became mandatory, more and more young hunters are instructed for at least 10 classroom hours in hunter ethics, state wildlife and hunting laws, firearms handling and safety, muzzle loading, archery, wildlife identification and management, outdoor survival skills and first aid. Each student must successfully pass a comprehensive written examination at the end of the course to qualify for hunter education certification. Goals of the program are increasing awareness of the importance of hunter-landowner relations, "hunter" behavior, reducing accident rates and increasing knowledge of basic wildlife management concepts and wildlife laws.

The telling proof that hunter education is making a difference is shown through comparing the statistics over the five year period before the course was mandatory with the corresponding statistics for the last five years. With hunter education, we have seen the number of serious accidents reduced, but will still strive to have that perfect season with no hunter-related mishaps in the record books.

Buckle up for
on-the-road
safety during
summer trips

(NAPS)—Buckle up! Taking this simple step can put people into the driver's seat when it comes to improving on-the-road safety. Air bags save lives, but they need to be used in conjunction with seat belts, safety experts say. Here are some more safety tips to consider from the American Coalition for Traffic Safety. Never put a rear-facing infant restraint in the front seat of a vehicle with a front passenger airbag. The child could get hurt when the airbag deploys. Restrain children 12 and under in the back seat of the car. All young children should be in child safety seats or booster seats. There should be at least ten inches between the center of a driver's breastbone and the steering wheel. While airbags can be used just once, safety belts can protect occupants during subsequent collisions. In an accident, you may hit more than one object. For a free brochure about airbag safety from Autoliv Inc., which develops and manufactures airbags, seat belts, safety electronics and other safety devices, write to Autoliv, c/o Investor Relations, 1320 Pacific Dr., Auburn Hills, MI 48326.



VOLLEYBALL CAMP 2001...was held last week at Elba High School for girls in grades 7-12. Coach Amelia Rhoades conducted the camp, which was attended by students from Elba and surrounding schools.

Troy State awarded
grant by NCAA to
fight alcohol abuse

Troy State University is one of only 10 colleges and universities in the nation to receive a grant from the National Collegiate Athletic Association to combat alcohol abuse among students.

TSU has received a three-year, \$30,000 grant from the NCAA CHOICES Program to implement Smart CHOICES, according to Susan Pierce, Director of Student Development/Counseling.

"Because the NCAA administers the program, it encourages universities to engage its athletes to deliver the anti-alcohol abuse messages," Pierce said. "Athletes are usually among the most visible and most popular students on campus, so they can be effective in reaching other students."

Pierce said the TSU Smart CHOICES program has five components:

**** Educate faculty, staff, administrators and student leaders on the risks associated with alcohol abuse.

**** Train individuals to identify students exhibiting behavior associated with substance abuse.

**** Implement a training model through various existing university programs and organizations, such as the TSU chapter of GAMMA (Greeks Advocating the Mature Management of Alcohol).

**** Develop student-athlete advocates to promote messages through a multimedia campaign; and

**** Sponsor alcohol-free events at athletics venues. Pierce said the grant program will enable TSU to continue a strong alcohol abuse awareness campaign in light of recent state budget cuts.



ASHLEIGH WADDAIL, of Elba, participated in the Kinston/Samson Basketball Camp on June 4-8 at Kinston High School, and brought home a plaque for her skills. On the final day of the camp, Ashleigh competed in the 12-16 age group and was named the "2001 Shoot Out Champion" after earning the highest score of all participants. Ashleigh attends Elba Junior High School.

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COMMUNITY NEWS



ENGINE REPAIR. The Elba Chamber of Commerce officially welcomed Elba's newest business to the area last Friday, June 15, with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Southern Small Engine Repair recently opened in the building which formerly housed Guy's Used Lawn Mower and Repair Services. The business specializes in the repair and sales of small engines used with such equipment as lawn mowers, weed eaters, etc. Southern Small Engine Repair is locally owned by Gary Brown. Those present for the Friday morning ribbon cutting ceremony include: (from left) Stacy Parker, Sarah Cordle, Elba Chamber of Commerce ambassador, Tommy Skinner, Elba Chamber of Commerce ambassador, Gary Brown, owner, Jimmy Harrison, Elba Mayor James Grimes, Nick Semonelle, Brandy Carter, business manager, Destiny Hudson holding Tanner Hudson, Kaye Whitworth, executive director of the Elba Chamber of Commerce, Future Little Miss Elba Brinley Williams, and Jordan Williams.

BOE (Continued from Page One)

year, according to the best information Weeks could present to board members. This is a trend that has continued for several years, dropping from 1062 to 1033 last year and projections are that unless something unforeseen happens, the enrollment in the school system will drop below 1,000 in a couple of years.

The meeting ended with Weeks updating board members on the success of on-campus summer work projects being completed by ten and

twelve month staff members. He said the school system has been saved many thousands of dollars by the efforts of these staff members, which was aided by the City of Elba. He also explained that, staffers solved, one water seepage problem at the high school which had existed since the school was first built.

"I am very pleased with the efforts of our extended contract staff in putting forth this extra effort," said Mr. Weeks.

Community wish list established

Nonprofit service agencies and cultural organizations in the Wiregrass region will soon be able to post their wish list on a web site where businesses, individuals and organizations can search for a new home for surplus items or gifts with recipients in exchange of goods that benefit both parties.

"The Community Wish List is being established by the Community Foundation of Southeast Alabama to help nonprofits further stretch their service delivery dollar and give prospective wish granters a way to identify those needs," said David Jamison, Foundation president. Prospective donors can now visit

WWW.cfseal.org, and quickly determine which agency has a need for an item or items the business or individual wants to give away.

Ten area nonprofits have already posted their wish lists and wishes may be granted at any time by calling the agency in need. Other nonprofit service organizations are encouraged to visit the web site and explore the Community Wish List service. Organizations that would like to have their wish list posted must do so in writing to the Foundation, P.O. Box 1422, Dothan, AL 36302 or by fax to (334)793-0627.

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LEVI

(Continued from Page One)

school administration. "We did have to get special permission from the state board regarding Levi's admission into the program," said Wyatt. "I facilitated the special permission and acted as a conflict between the Brown family and the state board."

She said ESIC has been implementing the program where a high school student could receive college credit for more than 15 years, however, it has only been the last five or six years that the student could receive dual credit for both high school and college.

Brown is taking a music appreciation class and an intro to computer science class this semester.

"It's been fun but hard," Brown said. "They've all been very helpful and nice to me."

He said he has already discovered that college is a lot different from high school, especially in regards to freedom.

"If the instructors find a lesson early, they don't give you 'busy work,' he said. "Instead,



Levi Brown

they let you go for the day."

Wyatt said Brown is the youngest student she has helped to enroll at ESIC. She said there was a young lady about the same age as Brown who enrolled in a piano class, but Brown is the youngest student she has encountered to enroll on an academic basis.

"Levi is a bright young man," said Wyatt. "I have been impressed by his whole family and enjoyed working with them."

She said she has been extremely impressed by the determination of Brown's dad, Scotty, to help his son advance in every way he can.

"I am very appreciative of the programs provided by our local schools and the Alabama college system," said the elder Brown. "They make it possible for our children to advance above the standard course of study."

Wyatt said the dual enrollment program is not for every student, but for those who have the discipline, it can be a great asset.

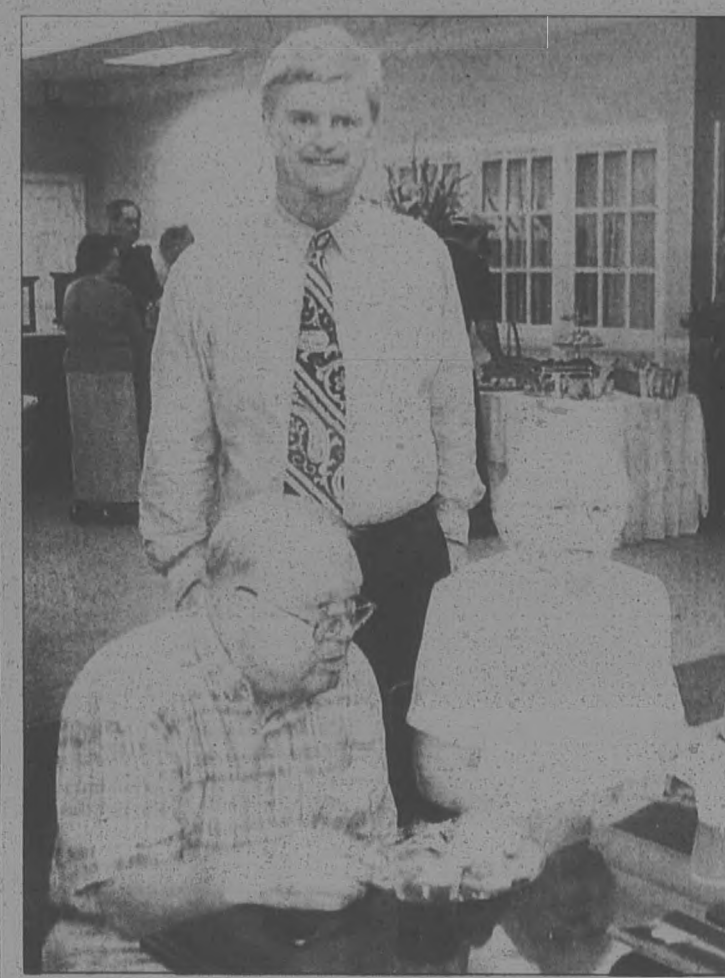
"It's a growing way to get college credits," she said. "And, a lot of students would qualify if they only knew more about the program."

As for Levi's future, he said he is enjoying his experience this summer and will probably return again next summer.

SouthTrust Bank of Elba honors chamber members

On Tuesday evening, June 19, SouthTrust Bank of Elba honored members of the Elba Chamber of Commerce with a reception at the bank.

The purpose was to celebrate business in Elba and remind chamber members that SouthTrust Bank is here to serve the people of Elba.



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INSIDE
Gunter Akridge receives scholarship

INSIDE
Lonzo Cooks waits in the batter's box

INSIDE
Savannah Sikes accepted to attend Baldwin

The Elba Clipper

Volume 105, Number 3

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, June 28, 2001

1 Section, 12 Pages

Thursday afternoon fire destroys home



Fire destroyed the rural Coffee County home of Stan and Carol Windham last Thursday afternoon, June 21. Shortly after 5 p.m. on Thursday, emergency personnel were notified of the house fire on Alabama Highway 87 South of Coffee County Road 514 and North of Alabama Highway 134. Traffic traveling on Hwy. 87 was blocked and detoured between County Rd. 514 and Hwy. 134 as firefighters from five local stations worked to extinguish the flames. The fire apparently started after lightning struck during a fierce late afternoon thunderstorm which swept through the county. Due to the loss of their home, anyone wishing to make a monetary donation to the Windham family can do so at the Citizens Bank in Enterprise. A special account has been set up for the family.

Council grants tax abatements to new Dorsey Trailers

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council voted Monday evening to grant tax abatements to the new Dorsey Trailer Company. The sales and property tax relief voted in by the city council must first be approved by the Alabama Department of Revenue before becoming a reality. The number

of years the abatement is in force could be as much as ten years, but that too will be set by the Department of Revenue and is based on the dollar amount of the new company's investment.

Police Chief R. W. Whitworth told council members that the police department has two new officers currently in recruit school for the next 12 weeks.

He also noted that off-duty police officers from Elba and some other departments are responsible for security at the Dorsey Trailer plant until the new company officials get their own security force in place. The company is paying for the work.

Please See CITY, Page 3

During dedication ceremony

EGH&NH celebrates expansion and renovations

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Those associated with the Elba General Hospital and Nursing Home enjoyed a special day on Sunday, June 24, during an open house for the dedication of a recent addition and renovation to the facility.

"As you might imagine, this is an important moment for anyone associated with the hospital," said Drexel Cook, chairman of the Elba Health Care Authority. "It has always been the goal of the board to create a health care facility that would be second to none. I believe today we are close to reaching that goal."

Cook said the facility has had and continues to have a group of superior employees that make it easy for the hospital and nursing home to grow and prosper.

The nearly \$2 million dollar expansion and renovation of the hospital and nursing home was announced in April of 2000, and became a full reality last Sunday when many local citizens joined the facility's board and staff for

the dedication of the building.

A major part of the project was the construction of a new wing in the nursing home. The 24-bed wing added 10 additional semi-private units to the nursing home, giving the facility a total resident capacity of 111. Besides the additional rooms, the wing provides the nursing home with a new front entrance, new lobby with nurses station and a drive-under canopy at the new front entrance.

Other renovations include a patient loading canopy at the hospital entrance, a new entrance for the administration section of the facility, a courtyard between the new wing of the nursing home and the previous entrance, as well as mechanical system upgrades which included individual heating and cooling units for each room.

During the dedication ceremony, board member Carolyn Brunson announced the renaming of the wings within the facility.

The Cook Wing is named in honor of Drexel Cook who has

served as chairman of the health care authority in Elba since its inception in the 1980s.

The Harper Wing is named in honor of the late Lillie Harper who was a lifelong resident of Elba and dedicated to the continued improvements of the facility.

The Kimmie Wing is named in honor of the late Ida Kimmie, wife of the late Dr. J.M. Kimmie.

The Whitman Wing is named in honor of the late J.D. Whitman who opened Whitman Drugs in 1922 when he realized the need for localized pharmaceuticals.

The Dorsey Wing is named in honor of the late Gladys Dorsey, a member of the original Dorsey Trailers family.

And the Hayes Wing is named in honor of the late Dr. C.P. Hayes. Dr. Hayes was the first chief of staff at the Elba General Hospital and practiced medicine for over 50 years.

"Today, we celebrate the culmination of their dreams," Brunson said.



The Elba Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for the dedication of the new addition and renovations to the Elba General Hospital and Nursing Home last Sunday afternoon, June 24. Those present for the ribbon cutting included (from left): Van McCall, Katie Holloway, Daniel Stephens, Miss Zion Chapel Mallorie Bedsole, Dr. Lance K. Dyess, Drexel Cook, Future Little Miss Elba Brinley Williams, Frances Bradshaw, Pete Cash, Elba Mayor James Grimes, Kenneth Calhoun, EGH administrator Ellen Briley, Little Miss Elba Brooke Weeks, L.M. Burch, Carolyn Brunson, David Bandstra, Marie LaPore, Jimmy Harrison, executive director of the Elba Chamber of Commerce Kaye Whitworth and Herby McCall.

Troy King begins political campaign in Elba

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Local residents and supporters helped Elba native Troy King officially begin his campaign trail last Saturday, June 23, at the National Security Conference Center in Elba during the Troy King - Secretary of State - Kickoff Rally.

"I don't know who said you can't go home again, but they obviously weren't from Coffee County," King said to the large crowd gathered at the conference center. "I want to thank you for proving that you can go home again."

King, son of former Elba residents Bob and Natalie King, was born in Elba in 1968. He is a 1986 graduate of Elba High School, a 1990 graduate of Troy State University and a 1994 graduate of the University of Alabama School of Law.

Today, King resides in Montgomery with his wife, Paige, and their two children, Briggs and Cadden. He serves as an assistant attorney general for the State of Alabama.

"When I decided to run for secretary of state, it was without doubt that I knew I needed to come home," said King. "You are the people who equipped me and prepared me for this."

King said during the Saturday morning event, he had enjoyed reviewing old friendships with people he had known all of his life, as well as making new friendships.

"As I look into the crowd, I see the people who have watched and lived through the problems in the state," he said. "Now, we need to be useless in our efforts to leave Alabama better than we found it. I know with friends like you by my side, we cannot fail."

King said he wants to make Alabama better by increasing voter participation, fighting voter fraud and instilling a sense of good citizenship among the state's children. He said these goals will help provide a non-

est, fair government for every Alabama citizen.

"We must not give up," said King. "I challenge you to join me in letting our children go farther, stand taller and dream dreams we have never dreamed."

He said his goal will be to constantly improve Alabama in hopes that today's children will one day be able to look back with grateful eyes.

"My first experience with Troy was when I was begging for help for family services," said Barbara Everett, wife of U.S. Congressman Terry Everett. "He was very helpful and I can assure you that the people in this area have already benefited from Troy's work."

As he spoke to the crowd, King attributed many of his character traits to the people of

Elba. He said he is honored in knowing that Elba is still a place where neighbors put their problems aside to help another person in need.

"There is nowhere I could have gone that would have gotten this campaign off to a better start," King said. "After all, these are the people who taught me about public service and made me want to be in public service."

He said he often tells his wife that growing up in Elba was like having 500 moms and dads. Contrary to what some may think, he said that is a good thing.

"Today wasn't about the publicity," he said. "It was about coming home and saying 'thank you' to the people who really got me started."



COMING HOME... While in Elba last Saturday, June 23, Troy King spent a few moments with his former neighbor, Henrietta Grimes, at the Troy King - Secretary of State - Kickoff Rally.

At Coffee County Commission meeting County engineer presents road paving comparison

by Linda Hodge, Editor

County Engineer Randy Tindell presented a comparison of contracted road paving to in-house road paving Monday morning, June 25, during the regularly scheduled meeting of the Coffee County Commission.

By contract, Tindell said Coffee County Road 623 was paved for \$120,000; Coffee County Roads 159, 542 and 543 were paved for \$190,000; and Coffee County Road 476 was paved for \$60,000.

He said this was an average cost of \$255,000 per mile for the county to have roads paved through contracting.

Two other roads, Coffee County Road 537 and 711, were paved through contract; however, Tindell said county employees did the base and prime work with the contractors only taking care of the pavement.

Before going into the cost of each road paved by county employees, Tindell told commissioners that the value of each job was described by public laborers and included all costs associated with employees.

According to Tindell, the county budgeted \$77,300 to pave Coffee County Road 446 but the actual cost of paving was \$54,350. Coffee County Roads 316 and 322 were budgeted at \$163,100 with the actual cost at \$117,470; Coffee County Road 157 had a budgeted cost of \$505,000 and actual cost of \$357,450; Coffee County Road

231 had a budgeted cost of \$531,700 and actual cost of \$367,900; Coffee County Road 601 had a budgeted cost of \$210,000 and actual cost of \$145,200; and Coffee County Road 664 had a budgeted cost of \$435,800 and an actual cost of \$303,050.

Tindell said the average cost per mile to pave a road through county forces was \$119,175.

He asked commissioners to bear in mind that the roads paved through contractors were a lot easier to build than those paved by the county. With the exception of a couple of the roads, he said the roads paved by county employees were "a heck of a lot more difficult to build than the contracted ones."

"Sounds to me like it is a

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Area Happenings

COUNTY GARBAGE PICKUP Mark Dunning Industries (MDI) reminds county residents that due to the Fourth of July holiday, the county garbage pickup for Wednesday, July 4, will be Friday, July 6.

HOLIDAY CLOSING The City of Elba offices will be closed on Wednesday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day. There will be standby crews for any sewer, street, water, or electric emergencies. To report any emergency, please call the Elba Police Department at 897-2555. The offices will reopen on Thursday, July 5, at 8 a.m. The garbage pickup schedule will be as follows: Wednesday route will run on Friday.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING The planning commission of the town of New Brockton will hold a public hearing at 6:00 P.M. on July 10th at the town hall for the purpose of reviewing the revised zoning ordinance. All interested persons are asked to attend.

NOTICE

Due to the 4th of July holiday, The Elba Clipper will have special deadlines for next week's paper. The holiday deadlines for the July 5 edition are as follows:

Social and Church News is due by 5 p.m. on Friday, June 29.

All other news is due by 12 Noon on Monday, July 2. All advertising will also be due by 12 Noon on Monday, July 2.